

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4238
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2001
CLOSURE OF COAL MINES
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of coal, mines closed down during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons for their closure, mine-wise;
- (c) whether the Government propose to take steps to make coal mines profitable; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a) The details of coal mines closed down during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise are as follow :-

S.N	State	Number of mines closed during the last three years and the current year				
	1998- 99 2000	199 9-	2000- 2001	Curre nt year	Total	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	1	4	-	7
2.	Assam /Meghalaya	-	-	-	1	1
3.	Chattisgarh	-	1	-	-	1
4.	Jharkhand	5	1	2	-	8
5.	Madhya Pradesh	6	5	1	-	12
6.	Maharashtra	-	-	3	-	3
7.	West Bengal	4	1	1	-	6
Total		17	9	11	1	38

b) The main reasons for the closure of mines, were as follows :-

Reasons for closure

Number of mines closed

1.	Exhaustion of Reserves	29	
2.	Safety consideration	1	
3.	Drowning of pits		1
4.	Techno-economic Considerations	6	
5.	Non-availability of land	1	

Total 38

(c) & (d) The following steps are being taken by CIL/SCCL to make coal mines profitable:-

- i) Conversion of underground mines to opencast mines, wherever practicable.
- ii) Mechanisation of underground mines wherever feasible by introducing SDLs , LHDs and Continuous Miners.
- iii) Encouraging Voluntary Retirement Scheme to reduce manpower and facilitate introduction of mechanisation.
- iv) Effective utilisation of existing resources by motivation to achieve higher productivity by way of close monitoring and incentives.
- v) Coal Quality Improvement drive in all mines.